<u>AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS</u>

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application;

--1. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:

a plurality of receiving means <u>having a plurality of inputs</u> for <u>respectively</u> receiving a request signal for requesting bus acquisition for each of a plurality of modules; ·

measurement means for measuring <u>a</u> time limit of each of said plurality of modules based on the request signal received by each of said plurality <u>of inputs</u> of <u>said</u> receiving means;

priority determination means for determining <u>a</u> priority of bus acquisition of said plurality of modules according to the time limit measured by said measurement means; and

control means for controlling acquisition of <u>the</u> bus for said plurality of modules based on the priority determined by said priority determination means.

--2. (Currently Amended) The information processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said priority determination means determines priority by means of a round-robin method [[if]] <u>when</u> there is a plurality of modules having a same time limit as measured by said measurement means.

--3. (Currently Amended) An information processing method

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comprising the steps of:

receiving a request signal for requesting bus acquisition for each of a plurality of modules;

measuring a time limit of each of said plurality of modules based on a request signal requesting bus acquisition received for each of [[a]] the plurality of modules, for requesting bus acquisition;

determining priority of bus acquisition of said plurality of modules according to a time limit as measured in said measurement step of measuring; and

controlling acquisition of the bus for said plurality of modules based on the priority as determined in said priority determination step of determining priority.

--4. (Currently Amended) A storage medium for storing a computer-readable program for causing the computer to execute the steps of:

measuring a time limit of each of said a plurality of modules based on a request signal received for each of a plurality of modules, for requesting bus acquisition;

determining priority of bus acquisition of said plurality of modules according to [[a]] the time limit [[as]] measured in said measurement step of measuring; and

controlling acquisition of the bus for said plurality of modules based on the priority as determined in said priority

~~determination~~ step <u>of determining priority</u>.

--5. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable program for causing the computer to execute the steps of:

measuring <u>a</u> time limit of each of ~~said~~ <u>a</u> plurality of modules based on a request signal <u>requesting bus acquisition</u> received for each of [[a]] <u>the</u> plurality of modules~~, for requesting bus acquisition~~;

determining <u>a</u> priority of bus acquisition of said plurality of modules according to a time limit as measured in said ~~measurement~~ step <u>of measuring</u>; and

controlling acquisition of <u>the</u> bus for said plurality of modules based on the priority as determined in said ~~priority determination~~ step <u>of determining priority</u>.

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